IN THE CLAIMS

Amended claims follow:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for dynamically configuring a speech recognition portal, comprising:

a) conducting a session with a user utilizing a speech recognition portal, wherein access to a network is provided during the session via the speech recognition portal;

b) receiving utterances from the user during the session via the speech recognition portal;

c) performing a speech recognition process on the utterances to interpret the utterances;-

d) dynamically configuring one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal during the session; and

e) monitoring the speech recognition portal during the session to ascertain user preferences of the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal, and storing the user preferences in a memory;

f) wherein the user preferences are retrieved from the memory upon initiation of a subsequent session with the user utilizing the speech recognition portal, and wherein at least one aspect of the speech recognition portal is initially configured based on the retrieved user preferences;

g) wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured based on at least one of the interpreted utterances of the user;

h) wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured based on characteristics of the user;

i) wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal include a set of applications presented in the speech recognition portal during the session;

j) wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal include a set of commands available for use in the speech recognition portal;

k)   wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal include a set of verbal prompts used in the speech recognition portal;

l)   wherein at least one alarm is provided for notifications based on alarm conditions, the notifications being of a type chosen from the group consisting of: a simple network management protocol (SNMP) notification, a telephone notification, an electronic mail notification, a pager notification, a facsimile notification, a short message services (SMS) notification, and a wireless application protocol (WAP) push notification;

m)   wherein the at least one alarm is managed including integrating the at least one alarm with a helpdesk system;

n)   wherein a performance monitor provides a number of users simultaneously using at least one of the applications and an uptime of the speech recognition portal.

2.   (Cancelled)

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (Cancelled)

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured based on a locale of the user.

8.   (Cancelled)

9.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured based on a credit card account number of the user.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured based on stock purchases by the user.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising dynamically configuring one or more back end processes in communication with the speech recognition portal via the network.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein information about a gender of the user is ascertained from the utterances, and wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured based on the ascertained gender of the user.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a profile is associated with the user, and wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured upon change of the profile by a third party authorized to change the profile.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a graphical interface is presented to the user utilizing the network during the session to allow the user to input information via the graphical interface, and wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured based on the information input by the user via the graphical interface.

16. (Currently Amended) A system for dynamically configuring a speech recognition portal, comprising:

a) logic for conducting a session with a user utilizing a speech recognition portal, wherein access to a network is provided during the session via the speech recognition portal;

b) logic for receiving utterances from the user during the session via the speech recognition portal;

c) logic for performing a speech recognition process on the utterances to interpret the utterances;

d) logic for dynamically configuring one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal during the session based on at least one of the interpreted utterances; and

e) logic for monitoring the speech recognition portal during the session to ascertain user preferences of the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal, and logic for storing the user preferences in a memory;

f) wherein the user preferences are retrieved from the memory upon initiation of a subsequent session with the user utilizing the speech recognition portal, and wherein at least one aspect of the speech recognition portal is initially configured based on the retrieved user preferences;

g) wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured based on at least one of the interpreted utterances of the user;

h) wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured based on characteristics of the user;

i) wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal include a set of applications presented in the speech recognition portal during the session;

j) wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal include a set of commands available for use in the speech recognition portal;

k) wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal include a set of verbal prompts used in the speech recognition portal;

l) wherein at least one alarm is provided for notifications based on alarm conditions, the notifications being of a type chosen from the group consisting of: a simple network management protocol (SNMP) notification, a telephone notification, an electronic mail notification, a pager notification, a facsimile notification, a short message services (SMS) notification, and a wireless application protocol (WAP) push notification;

m) wherein the at least one alarm is managed including integrating the at least one alarm with a helpdesk system;

n) wherein a performance monitor provides a number of users simultaneously using at least one of the applications and an uptime of the speech recognition portal

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) A computer program product for dynamically configuring a speech recognition portal, comprising:

a) computer code for conducting a session with a user utilizing a speech recognition portal, wherein access to a network is provided during the session via the speech recognition portal;

b) computer code for receiving utterances from the user during the session via the speech recognition portal; and

c) computer code for performing a speech recognition process on the utterances to interpret the utterances,

d) computer code for dynamically configuring one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal during the session based on at least one of the interpreted utterances; and

e) computer code for monitoring the speech recognition portal during the session to ascertain user preferences of the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal, and computer code for storing the user preferences in a memory;

f) wherein the user preferences are retrieved from the memory upon initiation of a subsequent session with the user utilizing the speech recognition portal, and wherein at least one aspect of the speech recognition portal is initially configured based on the retrieved user preferences;

g) wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured based on at least one of the interpreted utterances of the user,

h)   wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal are dynamically configured based on characteristics of the user;

i)   wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal include a set of applications presented in the speech recognition portal during the session;

j)   wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal include a set of commands available for use in the speech recognition portal;

k)   wherein the one or more aspects of the speech recognition portal include a set of verbal prompts used in the speech recognition portal;

l)   wherein at least one alarm is provided for notifications based on alarm conditions, the notifications being of a type chosen from the group consisting of: a simple network management protocol (SNMP) notification, a telephone notification, an electronic mail notification, a pager notification, a facsimile notification, a short message services (SMS) notification, and a wireless application protocol (WAP) push notification;

m)   wherein a performance monitor provides a number of users simultaneously using at least one of the applications and an uptime of the speech recognition portal.

21.   (Cancelled)

22.   (Cancelled)

23.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a geographic locale of the user is provided by sending a request to a wireless carrier or a location network service provider and receiving a response from the wireless carrier or the location network service provider with a geographic locale of the user.

24.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein an order of the applications presented to the user is dynamically configured based on the locale of the user at the time of the session.

25.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein a first set of applications is presented to the user upon a determination that the user is male and a second set of applications is presented to the user upon a determination that the user is female.

26.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the determination is made utilizing automatic speech recognition (ASR) techniques capable of distinguishing the gender of the user based on at least one of a tone and a pitch of the utterances from the user.

27.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein a set of applications presented to the user are dynamically configured upon the change of the profile by the third party authorized to change the profile.

28.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the applications include a nationwide business finder application, a nationwide driving directions application, a worldwide flight information application, a nationwide traffic updates application, a worldwide weather application, a news application, a sports application, a stock quotes application, and an infotainment application.